

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 306513  
ORIGIN SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 INR-07 SP-02 IGA-02  
/035 R

DRAFTED BY S/NM:RMGIBSON:SCT  
APPROVED BY S/NM:MFALCO  
EA/TIMBS:DLFIELDJR  
USDA/ARS:QJONES SUBS)  
-----006745 232231Z /61  
R 232123Z DEC 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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STADIS/////////  
FROM S/NM FALCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, EPAP, TH

SUBJECT: USDA CROP RESEARCH PROGRAM

REFERENCE: BANGKOK 29156

1. CONTENTS OF REFTEL HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED WITH AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE, DR. QUENTIN JONES, AND MEMBERS OF THE EAST ASIAN BUREAU. ALL AGREE THAT THE THOUGHTS AND PROCEDURES OUTLINED BELOW WILL SERVE TO STRENGTHEN OUR NARCOTICS CONTROL EFFORTS IN THAILAND.

2. WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF SHIFTING THE FOCUS OF OUR CROP SUBSTITUTION EFFORTS FROM RESEARCH TO EXTENSION WORK WITH SUITABLE CROPS ALREADY IDENTIFIED (PYRETHIUM, COFFEE, STRAW-  
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BERRY DAUGHTER PLANTS, FLOWER SEEDS, AND PERHAPS OTHERS. THE DESIRED SHIFT TO EXTENSION WORK AND PILOT PROJECTS WILL, OF COURSE, BE GEARED TO KEEP PACE WITH RTG IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS. FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE IT APPEARS AS THOUGH THERE WILL BE A PLACE FOR ADAPTIVE RESEARCH AS WELL AS EXTENSION ORIENTED PROJECTS, AND THAT THE TWO CAN BE MUTUALLY SUPPORTIVE.

3. THE MAJORITY OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE PROJECTS IN THAILAND HAVE BEEN AND ARE FINANCED BY USDA, AND HAVE LAID A FIRM BASE FOR EXTENSION WORK. THE DEPARTMENT AND USDA WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH THE MISSION IN ORDER TO DEVELOP AN APPROPRIATE MIX OF RESEARCH AND EXTENSION PROJECTS COMPATIBLE WITH THAI EFFORTS. DEPARTMENT (S/NM) FUNDS WILL BE USED PRIMARILY TO ENCOURAGE RTG AND UNFDAC PILOT EXTENSION PROJECTS.

4. USDA EXPECTS TO IDENTIFY A REPLACEMENT USDA OFFICER FOR CHIANG MAI BY FEBRUARY 1. DR. JONES ANTICIPATES THAT THIS OFFICER WILL HAVE A STRONG EXTENSION BACKGROUND AND BE CAPABLE OF MOVING FORWARD THAT TYPE OF PROJECT AS WELL AS SUPERVISING ONGOING NECESSARY SUPPORTING RESEARCH. CLEARANCE PROCEDURES AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATIONS WILL PROBABLY DELAY THE NEW OFFICER'S ARRIVAL UNTIL LATE SPRING, BUT DR. JONES WILL ATTEMPT TO SPEED THE PROCESS ALONG.

5. ALL AGREE ON THE NEED FOR CLOSER COORDINATION BETWEEN THE EMBASSY, THE DEPARTMENT, AND USDA ON NARCOTICS RELATED RESEARCH IN THAILAND. WE BELIEVE THE FOLLOWING MEASURES WILL HELP CONSIDERABLY IN THAT COORDINATION. AS PROPOSED IN PARA 4A OF REFTEL, ALL CABLE TRAFFIC RELATED TO CROP RESEARCH WILL BE THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT RATHER THAN THE EXISTING PRACTICE OF USING FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHANNELS. THE EMBASSY, EA/TIMBS, AND S/NM WILL RECEIVE COPIES OF WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING USDA PROJECTS. AS REQUESTED IN PARA 4B OF REFTEL, ONGOING PROGRAMS AND NEW RESEARCH PROPOSALS WILL BE SUBJECTS FOR FORMAL COORDINATION AND APPROVAL BETWEEN THE MISSION AS WELL AS EA AND S/NM.

6. ALL CONCERNED APPRECIATE THE CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT OF REFTEL. WE ARE CONFIDENT OF CLOSER COORDINATION IN TAILORING CURRENT AND FUTURE USDA PROGRAMS TO OUR COMMON NARCOTICS CONTROL OBJECTIVES IN THAILAND. IF PROBLEMS IN THIS AREA PERSIST, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO LET US KNOW. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** SNAR, EPAP, TH  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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